



# Evolvable Mars Campaign and Technology Development

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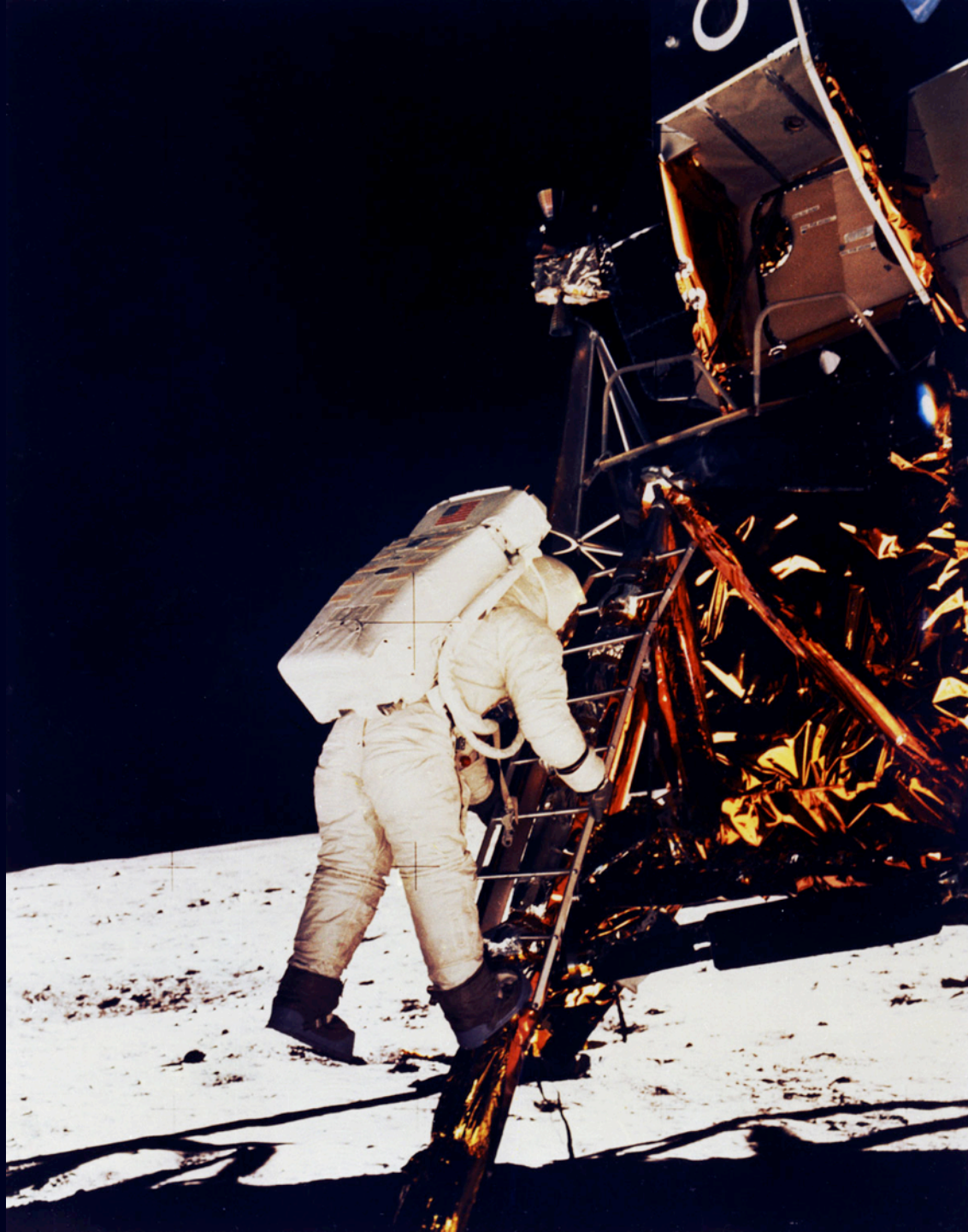
Human Exploration & Operations Mission Directorate

NASA Headquarters

27 July 2015











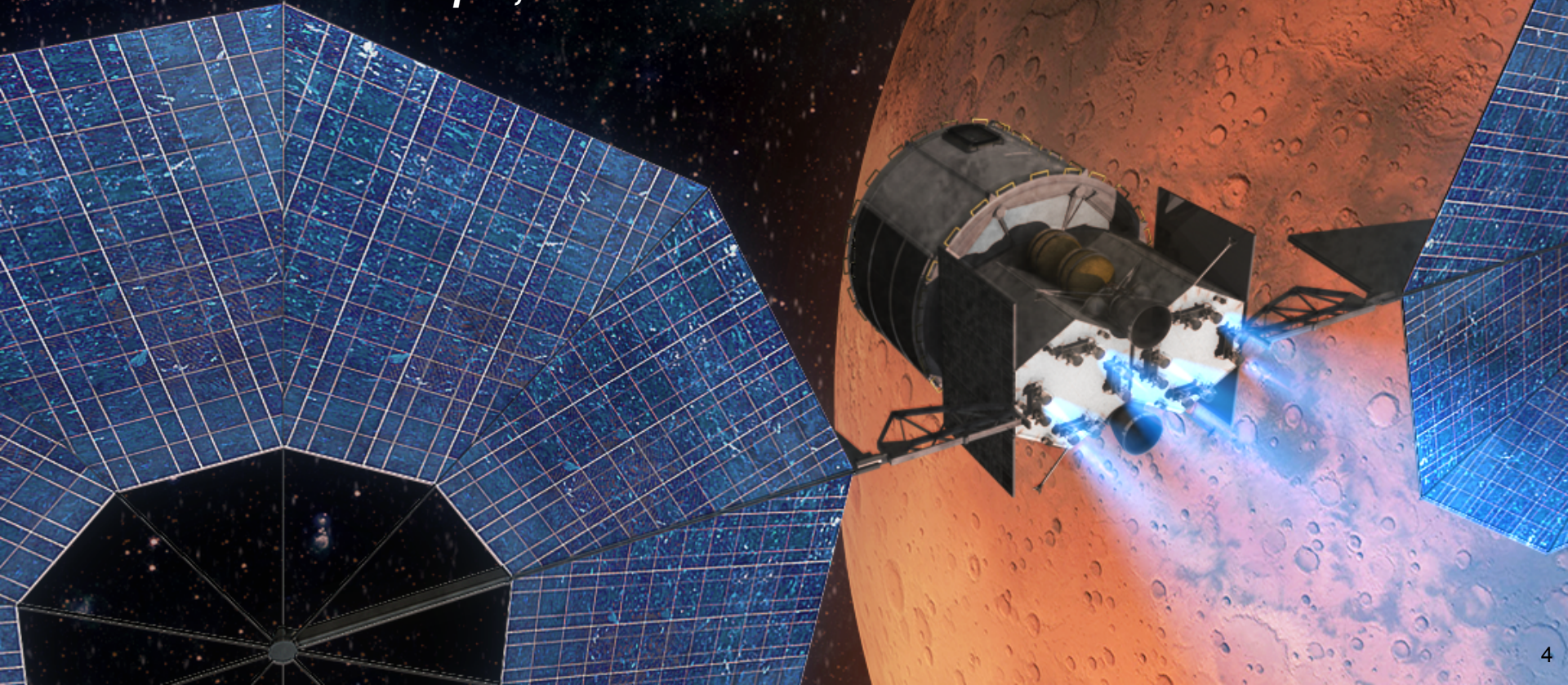


# Pioneering Space - Goals



***“Fifty years after the creation of NASA, our goal is no longer just a destination to reach. Our goal is the capacity for people to work and learn and operate and live safely beyond the Earth for extended periods of time, ultimately in ways that are more sustainable and even indefinite. And in fulfilling this task, we will not only extend humanity’s reach in space -- we will strengthen America’s leadership here on Earth.”***

***- President Obama - April, 2010***

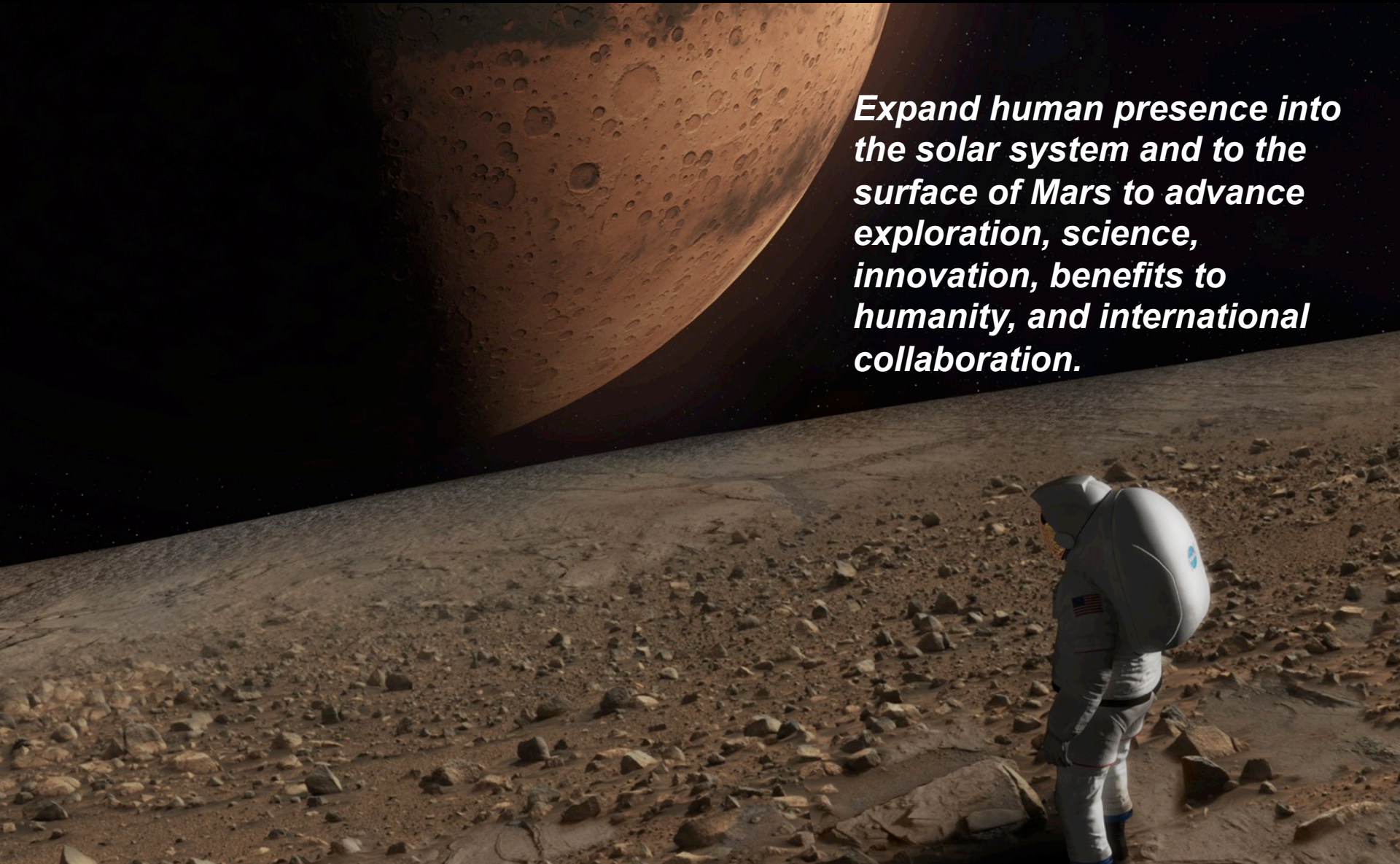






# **NASA Strategic Plan Objective 1.1**

***Expand human presence into the solar system and to the surface of Mars to advance exploration, science, innovation, benefits to humanity, and international collaboration.***







# Strategic Principles for Sustainable Exploration

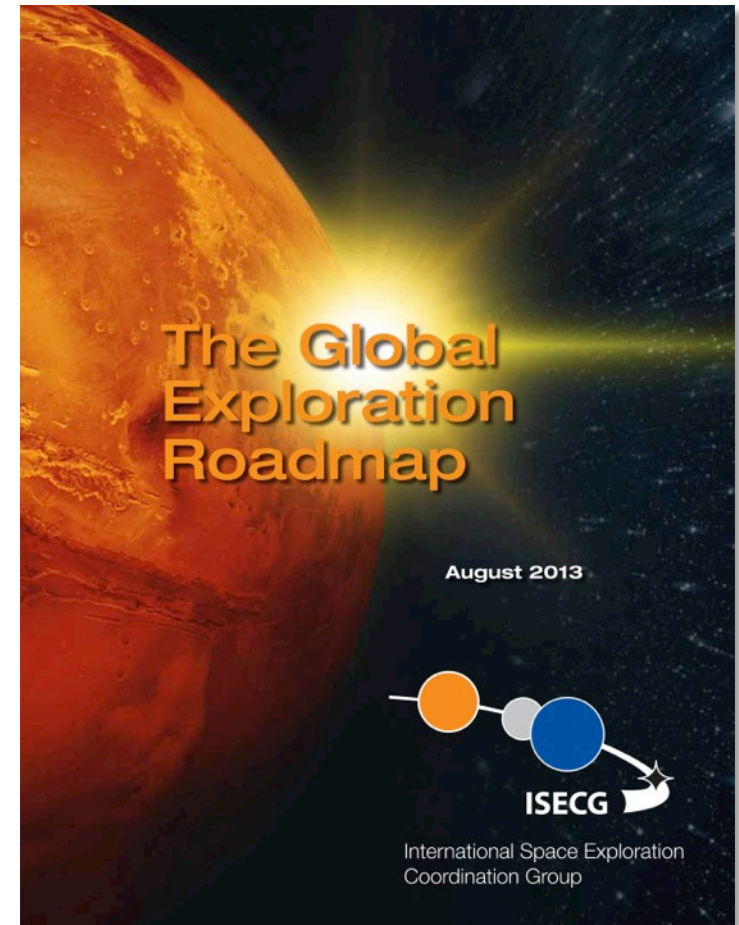
- Implementable in the ***near-term with the buying power of current budgets*** and in the longer term with budgets commensurate with economic growth;
- ***Exploration enables science and science enables exploration, leveraging robotic expertise for human exploration of the solar system***
- Application of ***high Technology Readiness Level*** (TRL) technologies for near term missions, while focusing sustained investments on ***technologies and capabilities*** to address challenges of future missions;
- ***Near-term mission opportunities*** with a defined cadence of compelling and integrated human and robotic missions providing for an incremental buildup of capabilities for more complex missions over time;
- Opportunities for ***U.S. commercial business*** to further enhance the experience and business base;
- ***Multi-use, evolvable*** space infrastructure, minimizing unique major developments, with each mission leaving something behind to support subsequent missions; and
- Substantial ***new international and commercial partnerships***, leveraging the current International Space Station partnership while building new cooperative ventures.



# Global Exploration Roadmap: Common Goals and Objectives

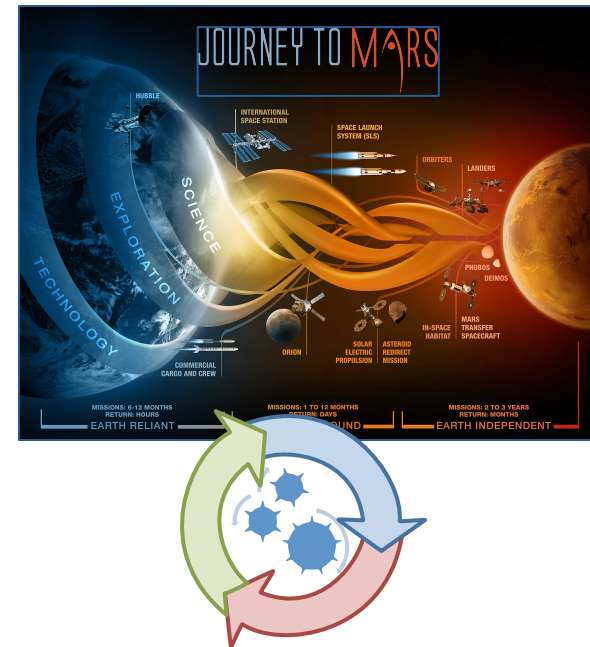


- **Develop Exploration Technologies and Capabilities**
- **Enhance Earth Safety**
- **Extend Human Presence**
- **Perform Science to Enable Human Exploration**
- **Perform Space, Earth, and Applied Science**
- **Search for Life**
- **Stimulate Economic Expansion**





# Design Reference Missions vs Design Philosophy



## Body of Previous Architectures, Design Reference Missions, Emerging Studies and New Discoveries

- Internal NASA and other Government
- International Partners
- Commercial and Industrial
- Academic
- Technology developments
- Science discoveries

## Evolvable Mars Campaign

- An ongoing series of architectural trade analyses that we are currently executing to define the capabilities and elements needed for a sustainable human presence on Mars
- Builds off of previous studies and ongoing assessments
- Provides clear linkage of current investments (SLS, Orion, etc.) to future capability needs



**DRA 5.0:** Global science driven approach for the human exploration of Mars. Emphasis placed on mission return with reasonable risk.

- A reference architecture (circa 2009)
- Science driven, all expendable architecture
- Assumed full lunar and test program prior to Mars missions
- Simultaneous crew and cargo missions drives high launch rate and cost profile
- Aggressive and simultaneous technology investment portfolio
- Emphasis on minimizing crew and systems exposure to deep-space environment
- Pre-deployment of landers and surface systems
- Vehicle assembly and departure from LEO
- Orion (6 crew) to Mars and back
- Ares V (~130 t) with a peak of 6/year flight rate
- Zero Boil-off Nuclear Thermal Propulsion
- Mars ascent via ISRU (O<sub>2</sub>)

**EMC:** An ongoing series of architectural trade analyses that we are currently executing to define the capabilities and elements needed for a sustainable human presence on Mars.

- A series of on-going studies which provide strong linkage between possible future with current investments (SLS, Orion)
- Balanced approach with emphasis on the “ilities” - affordability, sustainability, and reusability
- Cis-lunar Proving Ground and dedicated pathfinder missions to reduce risk and develop capabilities
- Cadence of missions spread by assuming pre-emplacement to reduce to manageable flight rate and budget profile
- Progressive technology advancement and demonstration
- Long-duration exposure to deep space considered manageable. Radiation Assessment Detector data returns indicate radiation levels in transit, and on the surface less than previously thought.
- Pre-deployment of landers, surface systems, and return stages
- Vehicle assembly and departure from cis-lunar space provides lunar opportunities for commercial and international
- Orion (4 crew) in cis-lunar space only
- SLS (~130 t) with a peak of 3/year flight rate
- Solar Electric/Chemical
- Mars ascent via ISRU (O<sub>2</sub>) with ongoing analysis for additional opportunities



# EVOLVABLE MARS CAMPAIGN

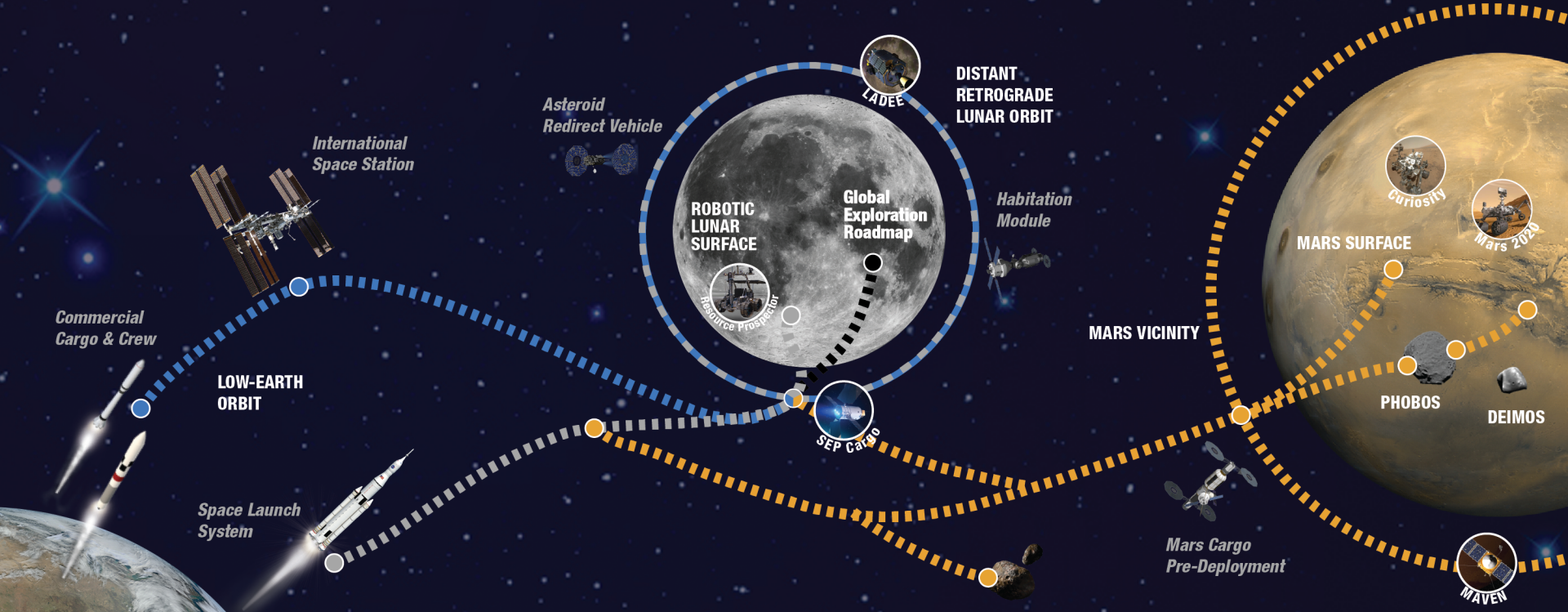
*A Pioneering Approach to Exploration*



## EARTH RELIANT

## PROVING GROUND

## EARTH INDEPENDENT



## THE TRADE SPACE

**Across the Board** | Solar Electric Propulsion • In-Situ Resource Utilization (ISRU) • Robotic Precursors • Human/Robotic Interactions • Partnership Coordination • Exploration and Science Activities

**Cis-lunar Trades** |

- Deep-space testing and autonomous operations
- Extensibility to Mars
- Mars system staging/refurbishment point and trajectory analyses

**Mars Vicinity Trades** |

- Split versus monolithic habitat
- Cargo pre-deployment
- Mars Phobos/Deimos activities
- Entry descent and landing concepts
- Transportation technologies/trajectory analyses



# Evolvable Mars Campaign

**EMC Goal: Define a pioneering strategy and operational capabilities that can extend and sustain human presence in the solar system including a human journey to explore the Mars system starting in the mid-2030s.**

- **Identify a plan that:**

- Expands human presence into the solar system to advance exploration, science, innovation, benefits to humanity, and international collaboration.
- Provides different future scenario options for a range of capability needs to be used as guidelines for near term activities and investments
  - In accordance with key strategic principles
  - Takes advantage of capability advancements
  - Leverages new scientific findings
  - Flexible to policy changes
- Identifies linkages to and leverage current investments in ISS, SLS, Orion, ARM, short-duration habitation, technology development investments, science activities
- Emphasizes prepositioning and reuse/repurposing of systems when it makes sense
  - Use location(s) in cis-lunar space for aggregation and refurbishment of systems

## Internal analysis team members:

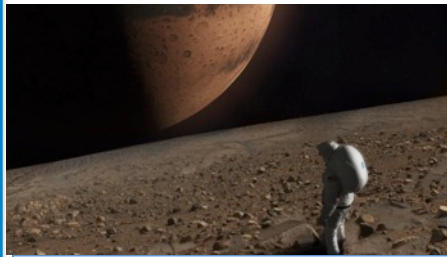
- ARC, GRC, GSFC, HQ, JPL, JSC, KSC, LaRC and MSFC
- HEOMD, SMD, STMD, OCS and OCT

## External inputs from:

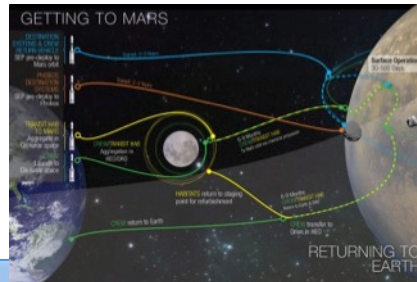
International partners, industry, academia, SKG analysis groups



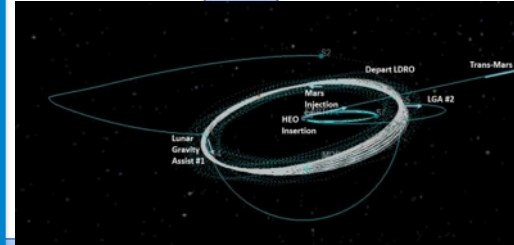
# Evolvable Mars Campaign Studies in FY15 - Pointing the Way Forward



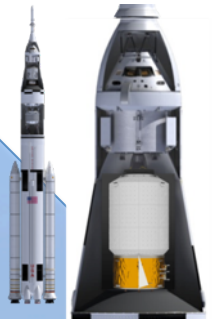
**Mars and Mars Moons Surface Exploration**



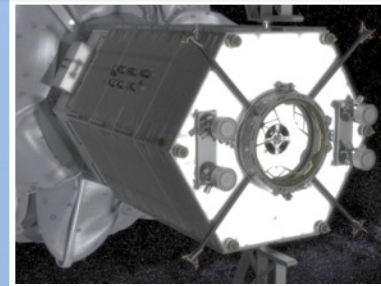
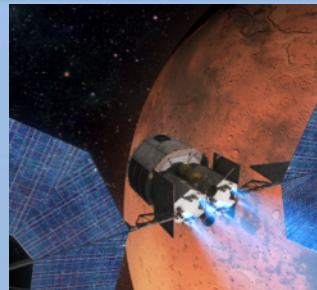
**Transportation Analysis**



**Staging Point Location**



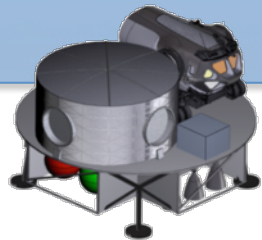
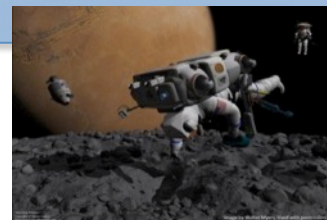
**SLS Exploration Upperstage and Co-Manifested Cargo**



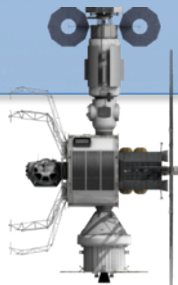
**SEP**

**ARM Extensibility**

**Deep Space Surface Operations in micro-g**



**Human Class Mars Surface Lander**



**Mars Campaign Habitation**



**Capability Development Analysis**



- **Transportation**

- Refinement of Hybrid and SEP/Chem transportation architectures for closure
- Sensitivities of additional capability investments for transportation architectures
- Assessments of alternate transportation scenarios as needed

- **Habitation**

- AES Mars Habitat driven design (Definition of advanced habitation roadmaps, we know what we need to get to, but don't know how to get there)
- Assessments of alternate habitation system designs (FCT Modular and BAA commercial) on EMC architecture

- **Pathfinders**

- EDL path finder strategy and assessment
- Provide Mars Moon SKGs for Mars Orbiter/moon pre-cursor

- **Teleoperations**

- Define low latency teleoperations for Mars Moons and for Mars surface via Mars moons. Link back to FTOs in cislunar and ISS

- **Mars Surface Pioneering**

- Develop Surface strategy, capabilities and layout beyond initial boots on Mars that leads to Earth Independence

- **ISRU**

- An ISRU strategy that begins on ISS, expands to cislunar space, proceeding to the Mars vicinity and ultimately the Mars surface will be developed.
- FTOs and system concepts for each step will be developed

- **Partnerships and External Engagement**

- FY16 EMS reports
- Engagement Workshop(s)
- ISESG Engagement
- Media Products



# Major Results to Date



- **Regardless of Mars vicinity destination, common capability developments are required**
  - **Mars vicinity missions selection not required before 2020**
- **ISS provides critical Mars mission capability development platform**
- **Lunar DRO is efficient for aggregation and potential refurbishment due to stable environment**
  - **Use of gravity assist trajectories enable use of DRO**
- **Orion Block 1 is sufficient for Mars architectures with reusable habitats**
- **SLS co-manifested cargo capability increases value of crewed missions and improves cadence**
- **Deep-space habitation serves as initial starting point regardless of implementation or destination**
- **ARV derived SEP vehicle can serve as an effective tool for human Mars missions**
  - **Reusability can enable follow-on use in cis-lunar space**
  - **Refuelability under study to enable Mars system follow-on use**
  - **Current SEP evolvability enables Mars system human missions**
- **Mars Phobos /Deimos as initial Mars vicinity mission spread out development costs and meets policy objectives of Mars vicinity in 2030's**
  - **Common crew transportation between Mars Phobos / Deimos and Mars Surface staging**
  - **Phobos provides 35% reduction of radiation exposure compared to other Mars orbit missions**
  - **Provides ability to address both exploration and science objectives**
  - **ARM returned asteroid at Lunar DRO serves as good location for testing Mars moon's operations**



# TRANSPORTATION OF CREW AND CARGO TO/FROM DEEP SPACE

## Challenges

Deliver crew and cargo to deep space

Return crew from deep space

## Orion

*Support crew during trip to/from cis-lunar space*

- ✓ 4 crew for 21 days
- ✓ Contingency EVA in a Launch, Entry, and Abort (LEA) suit using umbilical life support
- ✓ Ability to rendezvous and dock with other in-space elements
- ✓ Earth to cis-lunar navigation
- ✓ Earth entry from cis-lunar space: 11 km/s

## Space Launch System

*Transport crew and cargo to cis-lunar space*

- ✓ Initial launch vehicle that can launch 36 t to TLI
- ✓ Upgraded launch vehicle that can launch 43 t to TLI
- ✓ Option for 5, 8.4, or 10 m diameter shroud
- ✓ 1/year launch rate with surge to 2/year for cis-lunar missions
- ✓ 2/year launch rate with surge to 3/year for Mars missions

## Commercial Launch

*Use commercial launch vehicles to deliver logistics and small cargo to cis-lunar space*

- ✓ Small cargo vehicle to deliver up to 11 t to TLI
- ✓ Shroud = 5 m diameter



# LIVING IN SPACE: HABITATION

## Challenges

Protect and support crew in deep space for up to 60 days (cislunar) or 1100 days (Mars vicinity)

Uncrewed operations during deployment and between uses

Reduced logistics and spares

Earth-independent operations

## Phobos Habitat

*Live and operate in microgravity at Phobos*

- ✓ 4 crew for up to approx. 500 days
- ✓ 48 m<sup>3</sup> volume for logistics and spares
- ✓ Logistics Mass: 10.7 t
- ✓ EVA system with Phobos mobility and dust mitigation
- ✓ 4-5 years dormant before use
- ✓ 3 years dormant between uses

## Common Capabilities

4 Crew for 500-1100 days

Common pressure vessel

15 year lifetime with long dormancy periods

Design for reusability across multiple missions

100 m<sup>3</sup> habitable volume and dry mass < 22 t

Autonomous vehicle health monitoring and repair

Advanced Exploration ECLSS with >85% H<sub>2</sub>O recovery and 50% O<sub>2</sub> recovery from reduced CO<sub>2</sub>

ECLSS System (w/o spares): <5 t mass, <9 m<sup>2</sup> volume, <4 kW power

Environmental monitoring with >80% detection rate without sample return

14-kW peak operational power and thermal management required

Autonomous mission operations with up to 24 minute one-way time delay

Autonomous medical care, behavioral health countermeasures, and other physiological countermeasures to counteract long duration missions without crew abort

Exercise equipment under 500 kg

Provide 20-40 g/cm<sup>2</sup> of radiation protection

EVA pressure garment and PLSS <200 kg

Contingency EVA operations with 1 x 2-person EVA per month

Communications to/from Earth and between elements

## Mars Surface Habitat

*Live and operate on the Mars surface in 1/3 g*

- ✓ 4 crew for up to approx. 500 days
- ✓ 48 m<sup>3</sup> volume for logistics and spares
- ✓ Logistics Mass: 10.7 t
- ✓ 4 years dormant before use
- ✓ 3-4 years dormant between uses
- ✓ EVA system with surface mobility, dust mitigation, and atmospheric compatibility

## Transit Habitat

*Live and operate in microgravity during trip to/from Mars*

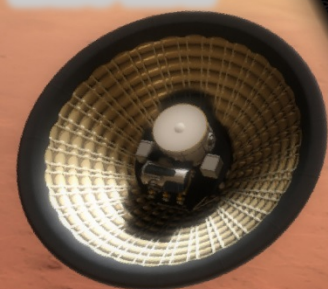
- ✓ 4 crew for up to 1,100 days
- ✓ 93 m<sup>3</sup> volume for logistics and spares
- ✓ Logistics Mass: 21 t
- ✓ 4 years dormant before use and between uses

**Any initial, short-duration habitation module in the Proving Ground of cislunar space will serve as the initial building block required for Mars-class habitation**



# IN-SPACE TRANSPORTATION

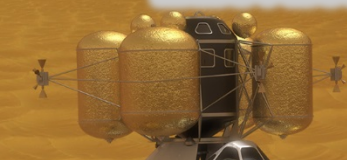
## Mars EDL



*Deliver crew and cargo to Mars surface*

- ✓ Possible aerocapture at 6.3 km/s if not propulsively delivered to orbit
- ✓ Entry velocity of 3.8 – 4.7 km/s
- ✓ 100 m precision landing with hazard avoidance
- ✓ Supersonic retropropulsion with LOX/CH<sub>4</sub> engine
- ✓ Deployable/Inflatable (16-23 m) entry systems
- ✓ Surface access at +2 km MOLA
- ✓ 20-30 t payload to the surface, 40-60 t arrival at Mars

## Mars Ascent



*Return crew and cargo from Mars surface*

- ✓ 4 crew and 250 kg payload from  $\pm 30$  deg latitude, 0 km MOLA to Mars parking orbit
- ✓ 26 t prop (20 t O<sub>2</sub>, 6 t CH<sub>4</sub>), 35 t total liftoff mass, 8 t Earth launch dry mass
- ✓ Up to 3 days flight duration
- ✓ 5 years dormant before use
- ✓ Use of ISRU-produced oxygen

## Challenges

Transport crew and cargo to/from Mars vicinity

Provide transportation within the Mars system

Provide access to Mars surface

Uncrewed operations during deployment and between uses

## Common Capabilities Chemical Propulsion

*Common LOX/CH<sub>4</sub> Pump-Fed Engine:*



- ✓ Thrust: 25 klbf
- ✓ Isp: 355-360 s
- ✓ Up to 15 year lifetime
- ✓ 150-500 s burn time
- ✓ 5:1 throttling
- ✓ Near-ZBO storage with 90 K cryocooler

*LOX/CH<sub>4</sub> Pressure-Fed RCS:*

- ✓ Thrust: 100-1000 lbf; Isp: 320 s

## Mars Taxi



*Transport crew and cargo within the Mars system*

- ✓ 4 crew for up to 2.5 days
- ✓ 7 t inert mass, 14 t wet mass
- ✓ 8 kW EOL at Mars solar power
- ✓ Reusable and refuelable

## Electric Propulsion

Deliver approx. 40-60 t to Mars orbit

200-kW class solar array system (BOL at 1 AU)  
using 30% efficient GaAs, triple junction solar cells  
300 V array system converted to 800 V for EP and  
28 V for spacecraft



*ARRM-Derived Hall Thruster:*

- ✓ Common Xe storage and feed system with 13.3 kW thruster
- ✓ Isp: 2000 s or 3000 s modes

## SEP - Chemical



*SEP delivers cargo to Mars vicinity, and LOX/CH<sub>4</sub> propulsion delivers crew to/from Mars vicinity*

- ✓ 1 x 200-kW class solar array
- ✓ >8 kW thermal rejection
- ✓ Flight times to Mars approx. 1,400 days
- ✓ 4-6 years dormant before use

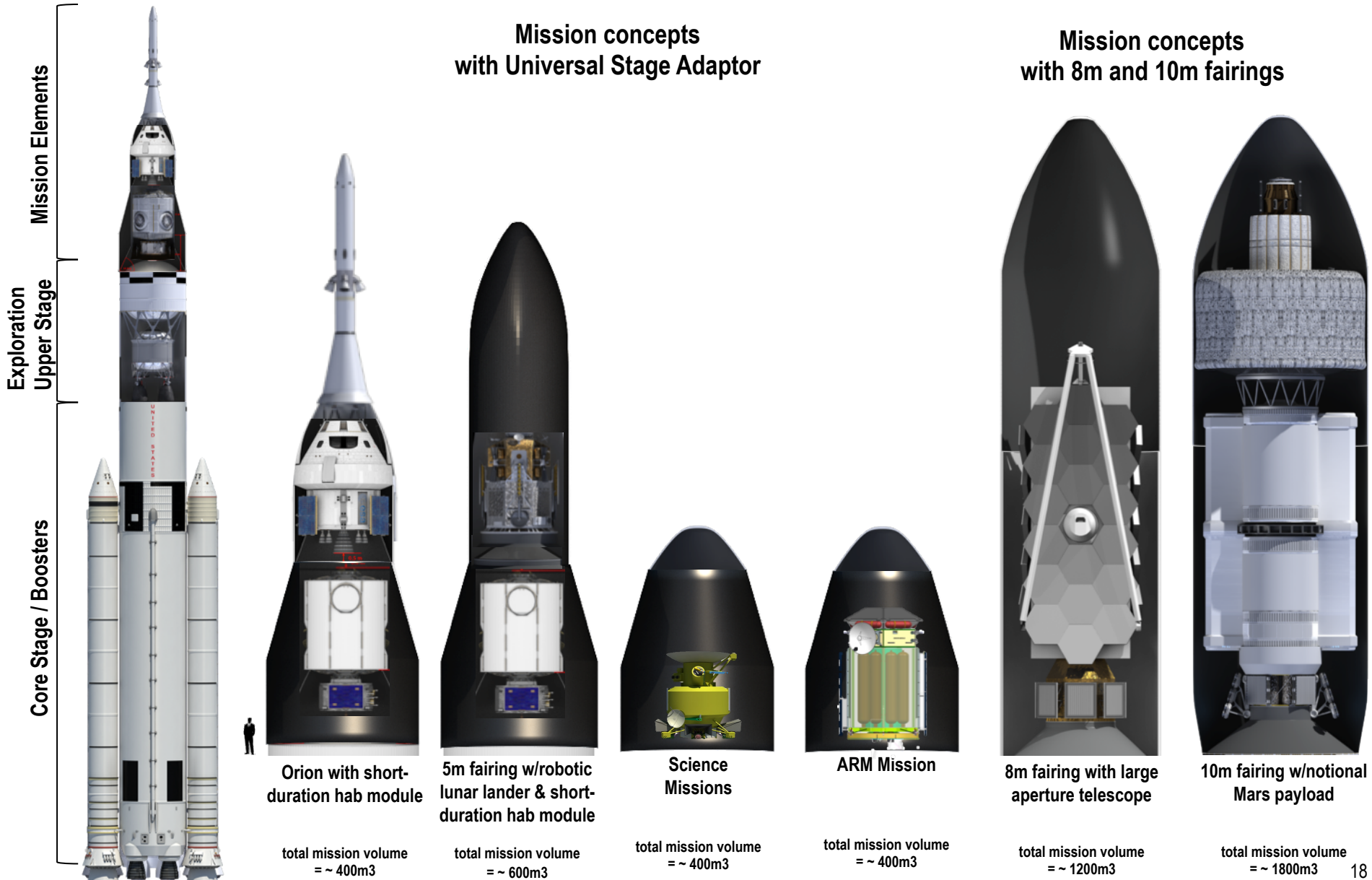
## SEP - Hybrid

*Combined SEP and hypergolic propulsion system delivers crew and cargo to Mars vicinity*

- ✓ 2 x 200-kW class arrays
- ✓ 1,100 days total trip mission time, 300 days at Mars
- ✓ >16 kW thermal rejection
- ✓ Ability to refuel
  - ✓ 24 t of Xe on orbit
  - ✓ 15 year lifetime, 3 uses, 3 refuelings



# SLS Block 1B & Mission Element Concepts Under Study





# EARTH RELIANT

## NEAR-TERM OBJECTIVES

### DEVELOP AND VALIDATE EXPLORATION CAPABILITIES IN AN IN-SPACE ENVIRONMENT

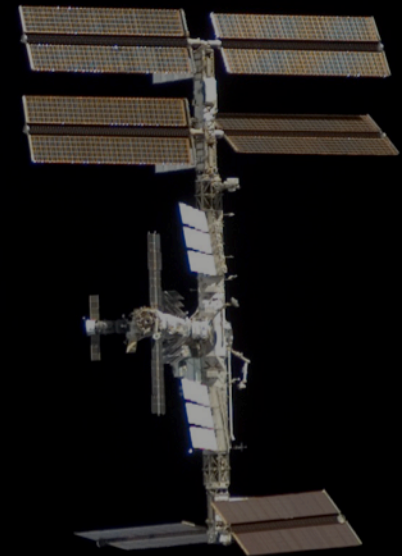
- Long duration, deep space habitation systems
- Next generation space suit
- Autonomous operations
- Communications with increased delay
- Human and robotic mission operations
- Operations with reduced logistics capability
- Integrated exploration hardware testing

### **LONG-DURATION HUMAN HEALTH EVALUATION**

- Evaluate mitigation techniques for crew health and performance in micro-g space environment
- Acclimation from zero-g to low-g

### **COMMERCIAL CREW TRANSPORTATION**

- Acquire routine U.S. crew transportation to LEO





# PROVING GROUND OBJECTIVES



## Enabling Human Missions to Mars

### VALIDATE through analysis and flights

- Advanced Solar Electric Propulsion (SEP) systems to move large masses in interplanetary space
- Lunar Distant Retrograde Orbit as a staging point for large cargo masses en route to Mars
- SLS and Orion in deep space
- Long duration, deep space habitation systems
- Crew health and performance in a deep space environment
- In-Situ Resource Utilization in micro-g
- Operations with reduced logistics capability
- Structures and mechanisms

### CONDUCT

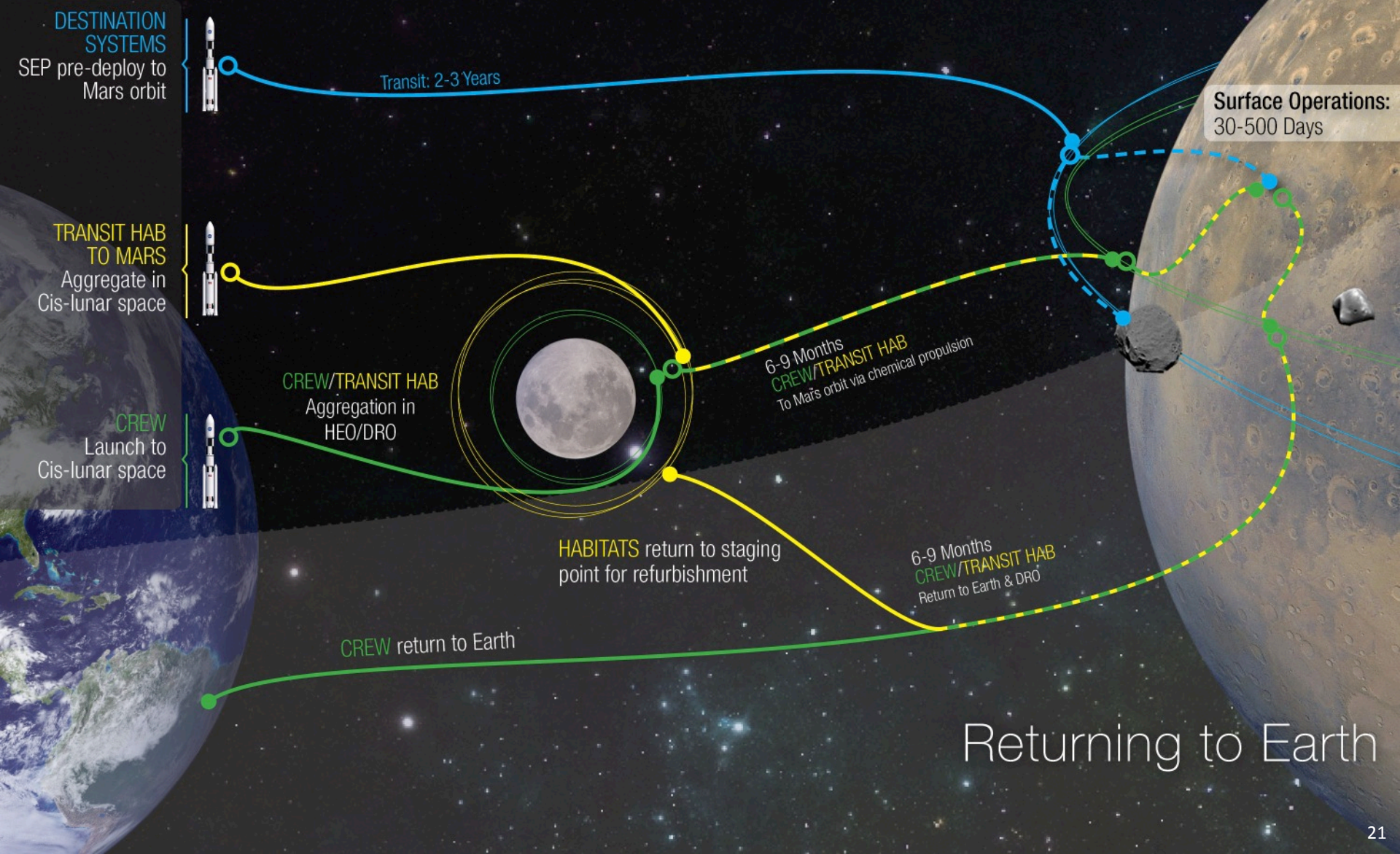
- EVAs in deep space with sample handling in micro-g
- Integrated human and robotic mission operations
- Capability Pathfinder and Strategic Knowledge Gap missions





# Split Mission Concept

## Getting to Mars

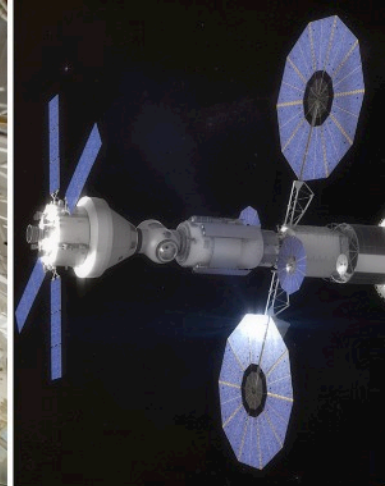


Returning to Earth





**DEEP SPACE** habitation



**CREW** mobility



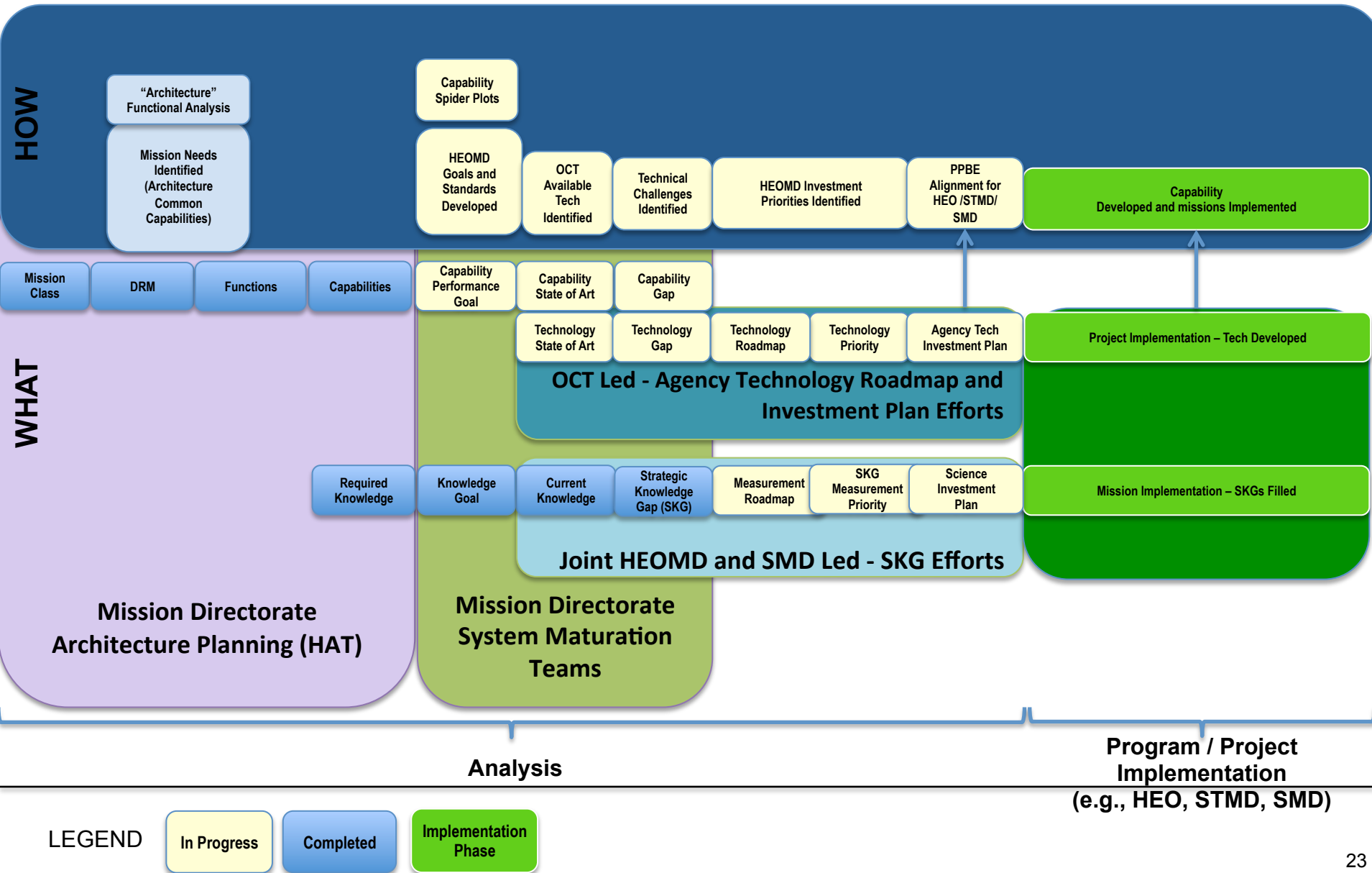
**VEHICLE** Systems



robotic **PRECURSORS**

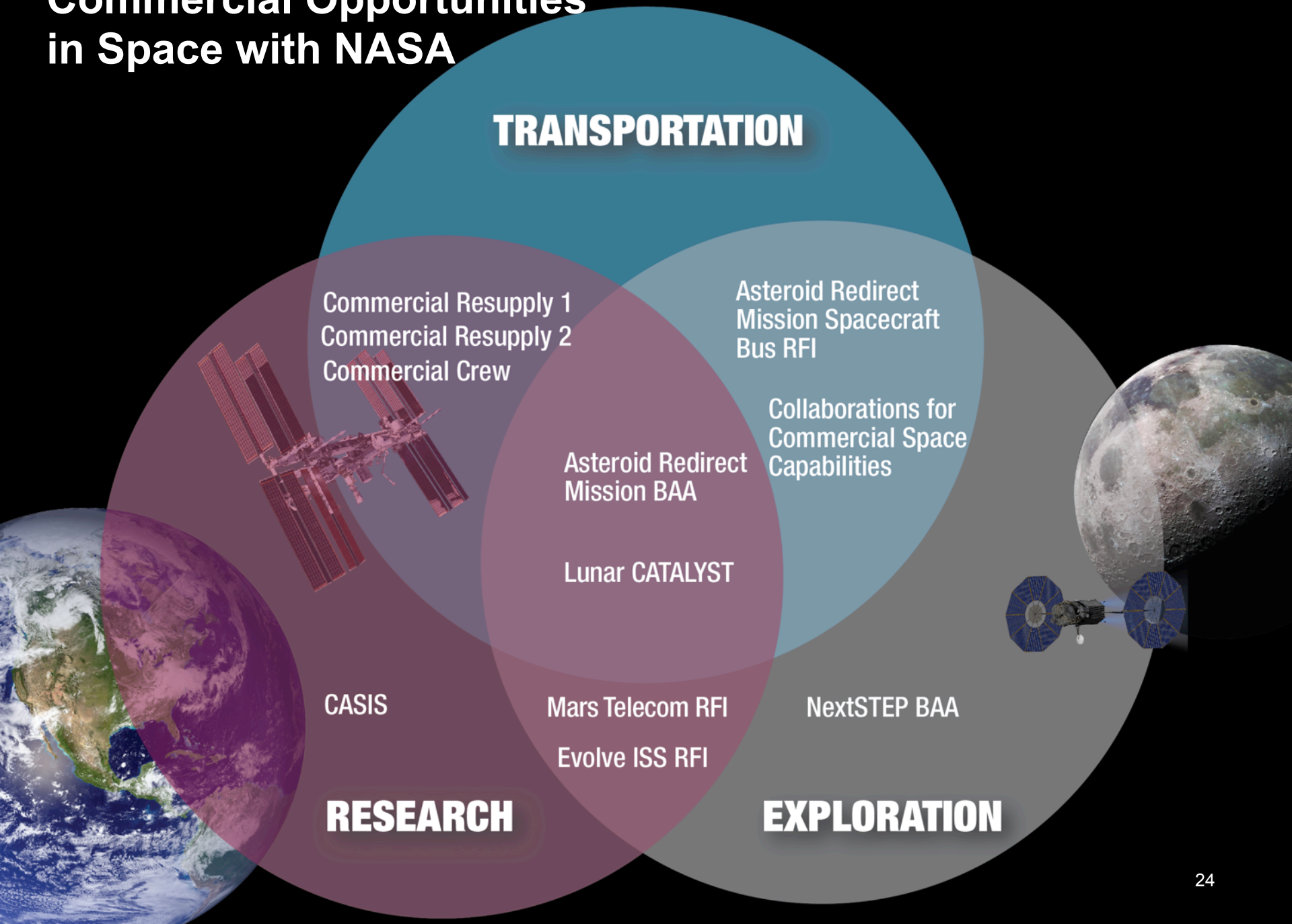


# NASA Technology Roadmaps & Investment Plan





# Commercial Opportunities in Space with NASA





# ADVANCED EXPLORATION SYSTEMS



**Rapid development and testing of prototype systems and validation of operational concepts to reduce risk and cost of future exploration missions:**

- **Crew Mobility Systems**
  - Systems to enable the crew to conduct “hands-on” surface exploration and in-space operations, including advanced space suits, portable life support systems, and EVA tools.
- **Habitation Systems**
  - Systems to enable the crew to live and work safely in deep space, including beyond earth orbit habitats, reliable life support systems, radiation protection, fire safety, and logistics reduction.
- **Vehicle Systems**
  - Systems to enable human and robotic exploration vehicles, including advanced in-space propulsion, extensible lander technology, modular power systems, and automated propellant loading on the ground and on planetary surfaces.
- **Foundational Systems**
  - Systems to enable more efficient mission and ground operations and those that allow for more earth independence, including autonomous mission operations, avionics and software, in-situ resource utilization , in-space manufacturing, synthetic biology, and communication technologies.
- **Robotic Precursor Activities**
  - Robotic missions and payloads to acquire strategic knowledge on potential destinations for human exploration to inform systems development, including prospecting for lunar ice, characterizing the Mars surface radiation environment, radar imaging of NEAs, instrument development, and research and analysis

## **Summary for FY15**

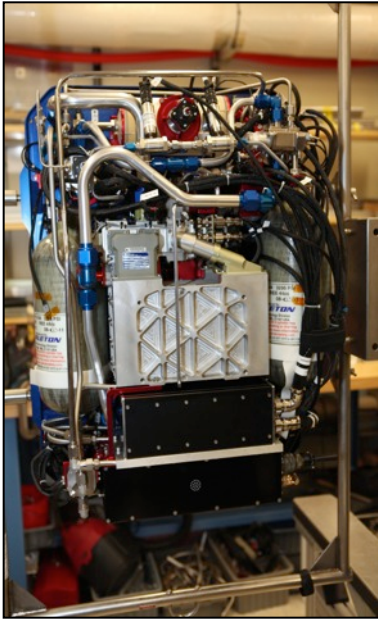
- AES has established 72 milestones for FY15 (see backup)
- Over 60% include flight demonstration elements
- Goal is to achieve at least 80%
- AES includes 580 civil servants in FY15



# Crew Mobility Systems Domain



**Advanced EVA:** Development and testing of next generation space suits and portable life support systems (JSC).



Portable Life Support System 2.0 incorporates new technology components for CO<sub>2</sub> removal, thermal management, pressure regulation, and energy storage.



Z-2 Space Suit



Testing Modified Advanced Crew Escape Suit (MACES) in Neutral Buoyancy Lab for Asteroid Redirect Mission.



# Deep Space Habitation Systems Domain



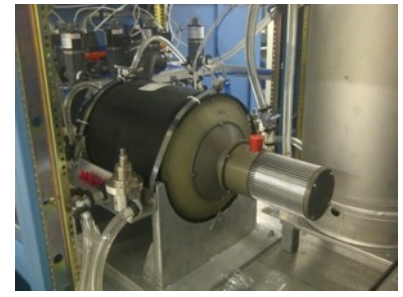
**Initial Short-Term Habitation Systems:** Integration of key systems in prototype habitat ground test unit (JSC).



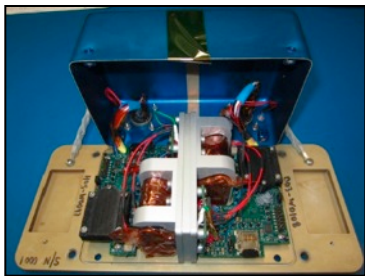
**Bigelow Expandable Activity Module (BEAM):** Test of commercial inflatable module on ISS (JSC).



**Atmosphere Resource Recovery & Environmental Monitoring:** Integrated ground testing of ISS-derived life support system components (MSFC).



**Water Recovery:** Development of processes and systems for recycling wastewater (JSC).



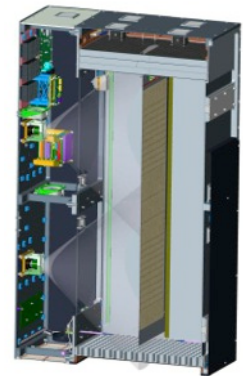
**Radiation Protection:** Development and testing of radiation sensors and shielding (JSC).



**Logistics Reduction:** Waste processing to reduce logistics mass (JSC).



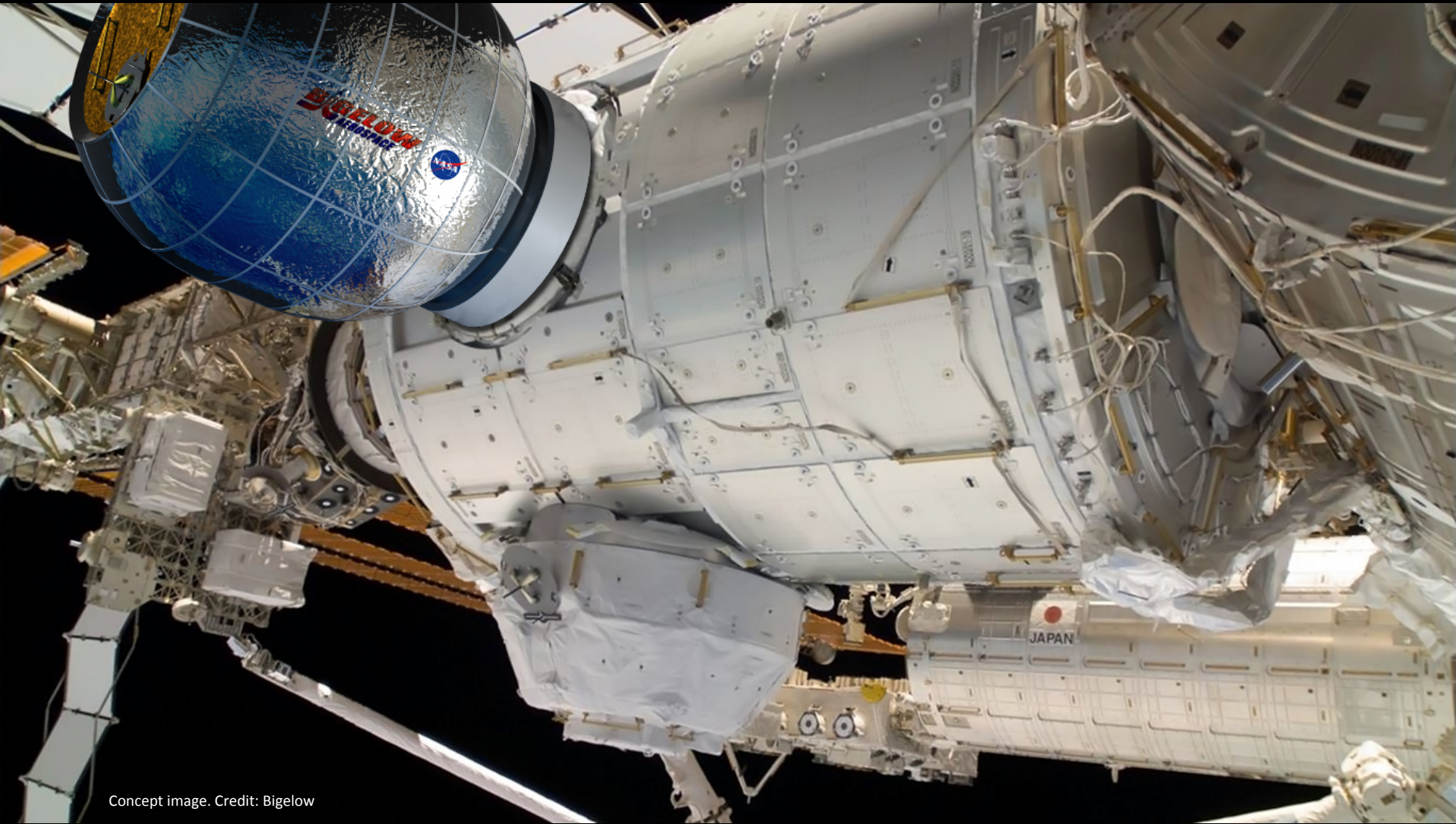
**Additive Manufacturing:** Demonstration of 3D printing on ISS to fabricate spare parts (MSFC).



**Spacecraft Fire Safety:** Flight experiment on Cygnus to investigate how large-scale fires propagate in microgravity (GRC).



# Cost Sharing Contract – Bigelow Expandable Activity Model



Concept image. Credit: Bigelow

- BEAM was initiated in January 2013
- BEAM will be berthed to Node 3 Aft

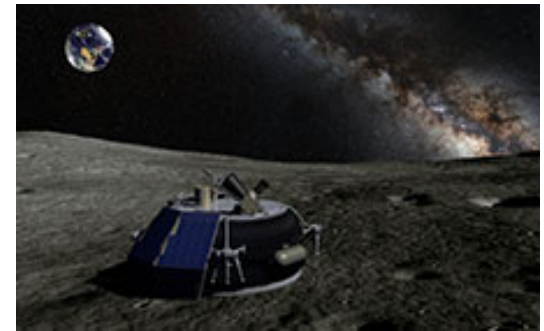
- BEAM planned launch on SpaceX8 mission
- Total Internal Inflated Volume ~565 ft<sup>3</sup>



# Vehicle Systems Domain



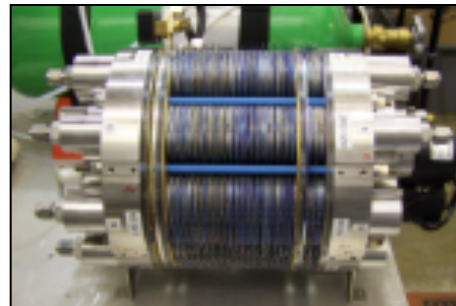
**Morpheus/ALHAT:** Flight demonstration of autonomous landing and hazard avoidance technology (ALHAT) on Morpheus lander (JSC).



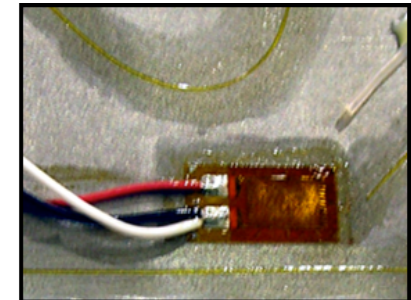
**Lunar CATALYST:** Supporting commercial partners to develop lunar landing capabilities (MSFC).



**Nuclear Cryogenic Propulsion Stage:** Development of reactor fuel elements for nuclear thermal propulsion (MSFC, DOE).



**Modular Power Systems:** Modular power systems for Habitation Systems, SLS, and EVA suit (GRC).

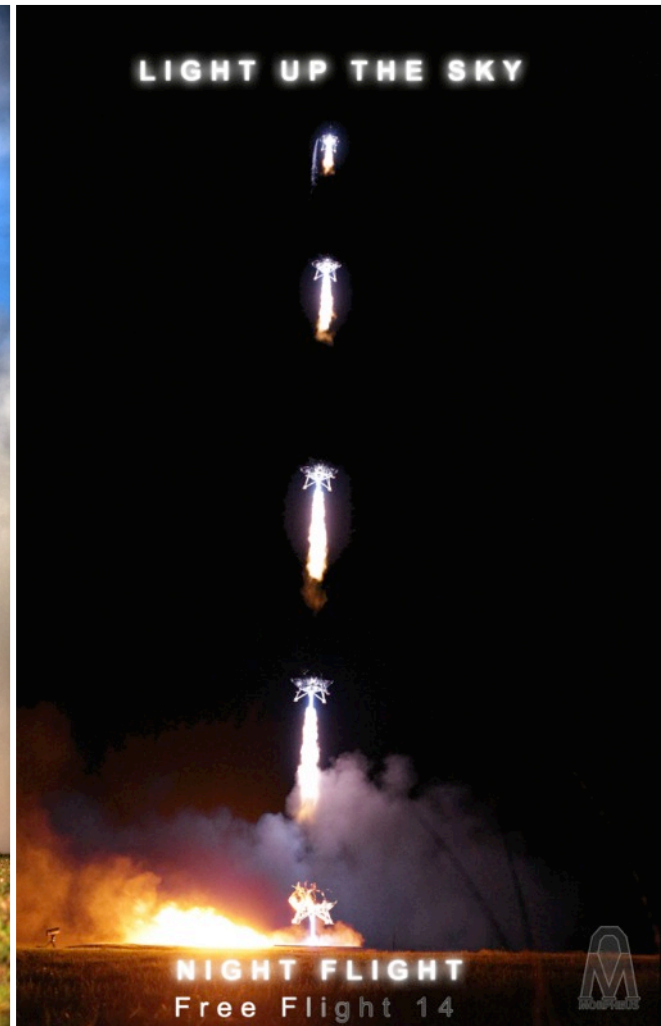


**Fiber Optic Sensors:** Development and testing of fiber optic sensors for measuring engineering data on launch vehicles (AFRC).



# Morpheus

## *Rapid Prototype Lander Development*



LIGHT UP THE SKY

NIGHT FLIGHT  
Free Flight 14





# Lunar CATALYST

(Lunar Cargo Transportation And Landing bY Soft Touchdown)

- Private investment in space transportation systems is increasing
- Commercial lunar cargo transportation is a potential new area of opportunity that could provide services to both public and private customers and enable science and exploration missions
- Per National Space Transportation Policy, NASA is "committed to encouraging and facilitating a viable, healthy, and competitive U.S. commercial Space Transportation Industry."
- NASA has accumulated decades of technical experience relevant to lunar cargo transportation





# Lunar CATALYST Selectees – April 2014



## Griffin Lander

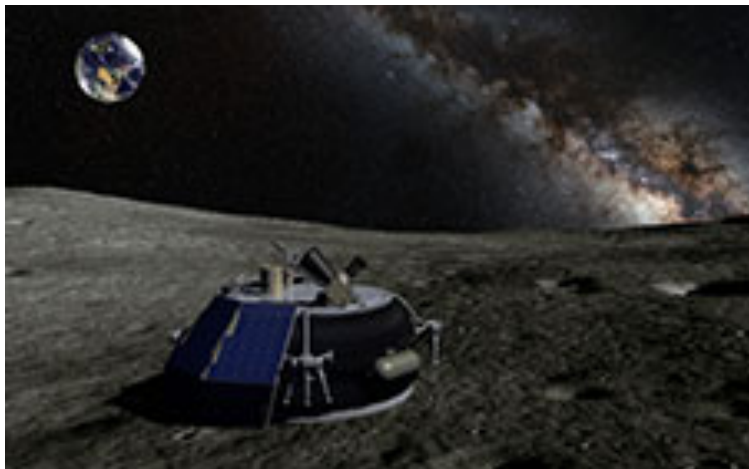
Astrobotic Technology Inc.,  
Pittsburgh, PA

*Credit: Astrobotic Technology, Inc.*

## XEUS Lander

Masten Space Systems Inc., Mojave, CA

*Credit: NASA/Masten Space Systems, Inc.*



## MX-1 Lander

Moon Express Inc., Moffett Field, CA

*Credit: Moon Express Inc.*



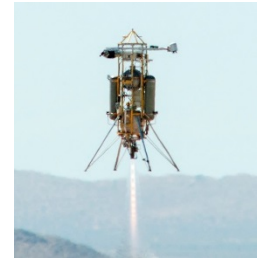
# Lunar CATALYST – Selected Accomplishments

<http://www.nasa.gov/lunarcatalyst>



## Astrobotic Technology

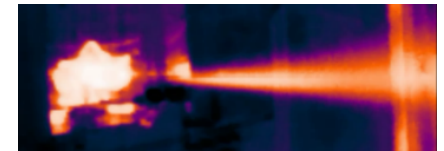
- Validated visual terrain relative navigation and hazard avoidance capability by integrating Astrobotic sensors and software onto a vertical takeoff vertical landing (VTVL) rocket and using the Astrobotic system to control and guide the vehicle to a safe landing location.
- Completed end-to-end mission simulation to verify attitude control, trajectory planning, pose estimation, and fuel usage.



Astrobotic Navigation/Guidance System Test on MSS VTVL Rocket

## Masten Space Systems

- Completed lunar lander propulsion system requirements definition document.
- Completed propulsion system preliminary design review.



Masten Space System Engine Hotfire Test

## Moon Express

- Completed system-level tethered flight tests (ascent, hover, descent) of the MTV-1 test article at NASA/KSC.

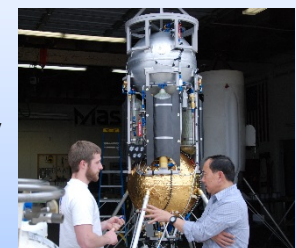


Moon Express MTV-1X Flight Test

**All 3 companies indicate that NASA's contributions to this collaborative partnership are providing them significant value:**

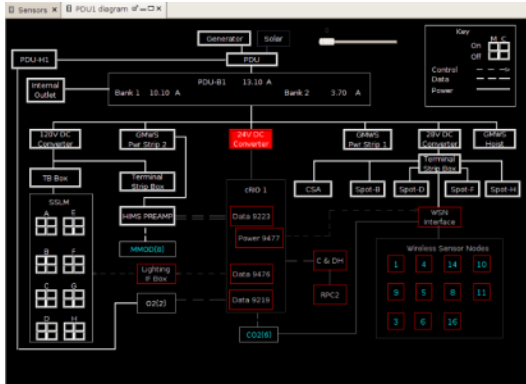
“CATALYST resources have been a critical force-multiplier and have unequivocally accelerated the progress of our robotic lunar lander program.”

~ Reuben Garcia, Director of Technical Operations, Masten Space Systems

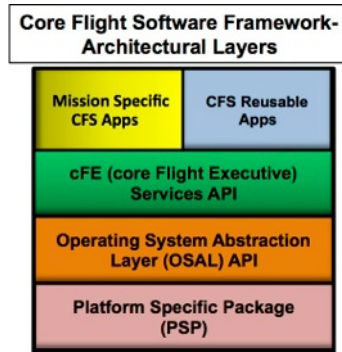




# Foundational Systems Domain



**Autonomous Mission Operations:**  
Software tools to reduce crew's dependence on ground-based mission control (ARC).



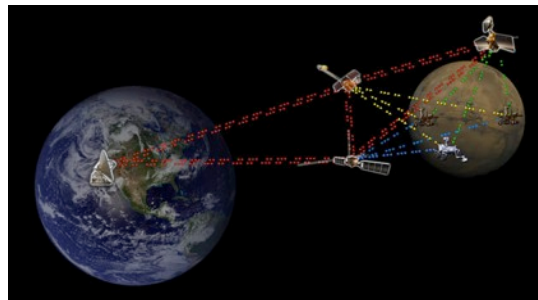
**Core Flight Software:**  
Development of core flight software for exploration systems (JSC).



**Integrated Ground Operations Demonstration Units:** Automation of cryogenic propellant handling and storage (KSC).



**Avionics Architectures:**  
Common avionics components and architectures for exploration systems (JSC).



**Disruption Tolerant Networking:**  
Demonstrating protocols and technologies to enable efficient and reliable space communications (JSC).



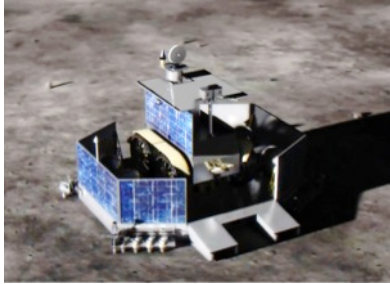
**Ka-Band Objects Observation & Monitoring:** Phased antenna array to detect orbiting objects and near-Earth asteroids (KSC).



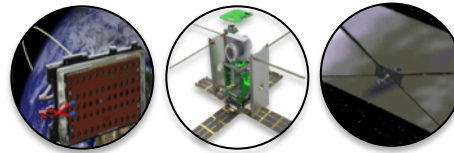




# Robotic Precursors Domain



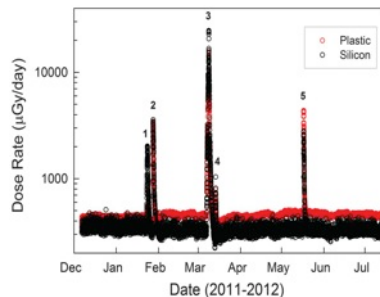
**Resource Prospector:**  
Development of lunar volatiles prospecting mission in partnership with JAXA (ARC).



**EM-1 Secondary Payloads:** CubeSats for investigating deep space radiation effects on simple organisms, remote sensing of lunar volatiles, and flyby of near Earth asteroid (ARC, JPL, MSFC).



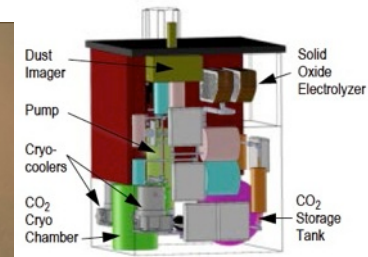
**Solar System Exploration Research Virtual Institute (SSERVI):** Research on moon and small bodies to support exploration and science objectives (ARC).



**Radiation Assessment Detector:** Mission operations for RAD to acquire radiation data from surface of Mars (JPL).



**Goldstone Radar:** Ground-based radar to image near-Earth asteroids (JPL).



**Mars 2020:** MEDLI-2 temperature and pressure sensors on heat shield to validate aerothermal models (LaRC); Demonstration of oxygen production from Mars atmosphere (JPL).



# Exploration Mission 1: Secondary Payloads



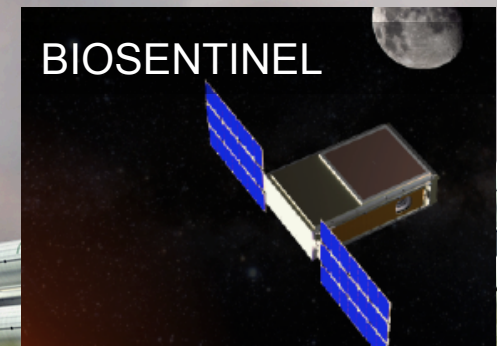
NEA SCOUT

*NEA Characterization*



LUNAR FLASHLIGHT

*Lunar resource potential*



BIOSENTINEL

*Human Health Performance*



# Strategic Knowledge Gaps



A Strategic Knowledge Gap (SKG) is an unknown or incomplete data set that contributes risk or cost to future human missions to the moon, Mars or Near-Earth objects

- **SKG development is ongoing and is jointly sponsored by HEOMD and SMD, who enlist the expertise of international partners and three analysis groups: the *Lunar Exploration Analysis Group* (LEAG), the *Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group* (MEPAG), and the *Small Bodies Assessment Group* (SBAG).**
- **SKGs inform mission/system planning and design and near-term agency investments**



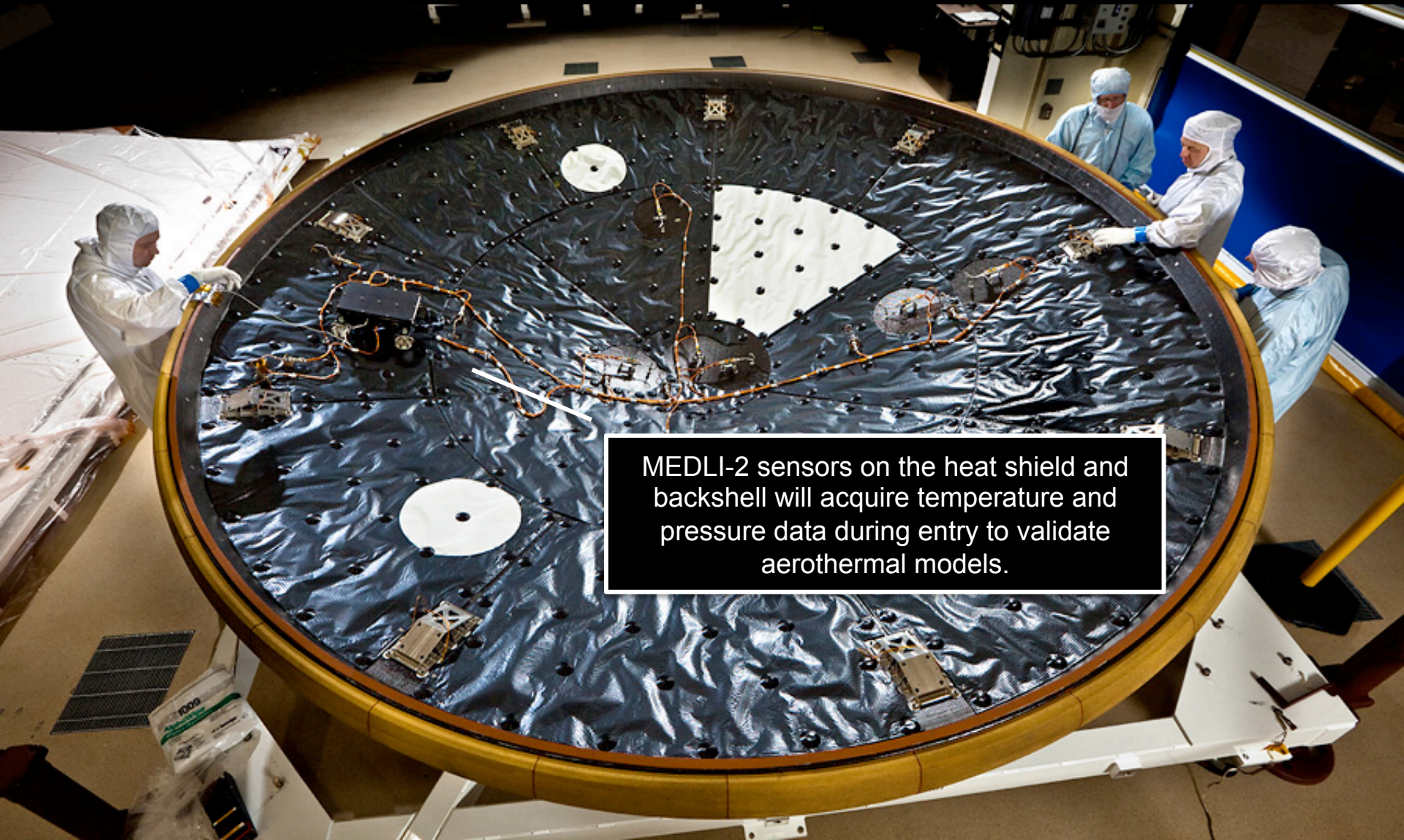
# SKGs: Common Themes and Some Observations



- **There are common themes across potential destinations (not in priority order)**
  - The three R's for enabling human missions: Radiation, Regolith, Reliability
  - Geotechnical properties
  - Volatiles (i.e., for science, resources, and safety)
  - Propulsion-induced ejecta
  - In-Situ Resource Utilization (ISRU)/Prospecting
  - Operations/Operability (all destinations, including transit)
  - Plasma Environment
  - Human health and performance (critical, and allocated to HRP)
- **Some Observations**
  - The required information is measurable and attainable
  - These measurements do not require “exquisite science” instruments but could be obtained from them
  - Filling the SKGs requires a well-balanced research portfolio
    - Remote sensing measurements, in-situ measurements, ground-based assets, and research & analysis (R&A)
    - Includes science, technology, and operational experience



# Payloads On the Mars 2020 Mission Will Address Strategic Knowledge Gaps for Human Exploration.



MEDLI-2 sensors on the heat shield and backshell will acquire temperature and pressure data during entry to validate aerothermal models.



# NextSTEP BAA Overview



- **Solicited three critical areas for technology maturation:**
  - Advanced Propulsion Systems
  - Habitation Systems (Including Life Support)
  - Small Satellite Missions (EM-1 secondary payloads)
- **Facilitates development of deep space human exploration capabilities in the cis-lunar proving ground and beyond**
- **Continues successful public-private partnership model and spurs commercial endeavors in space**
- **Selected 12 proposals and will proceed to enter into *Fixed Price Contracts* with technical/payment milestones with private-sector partners**
  - Emphasis for eligibility and execution placed on contribution of private corporate resources to the private-public partnership to achieve goals and objectives
  - Selected partners with the technical capability to mature key technologies and demonstrate commitment toward potential commercial application



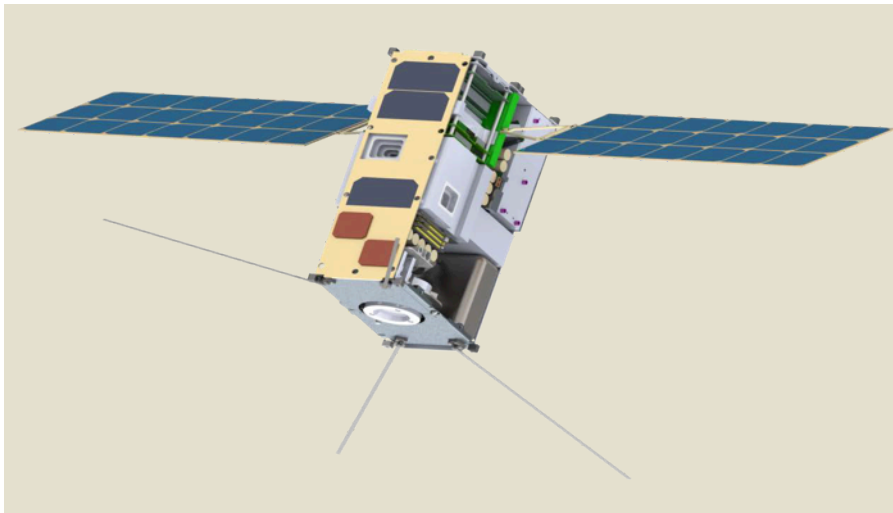


# NextSTEP: Two BAA Small Satellite Awards



## Two CubeSat projects will address Strategic Knowledge Gaps

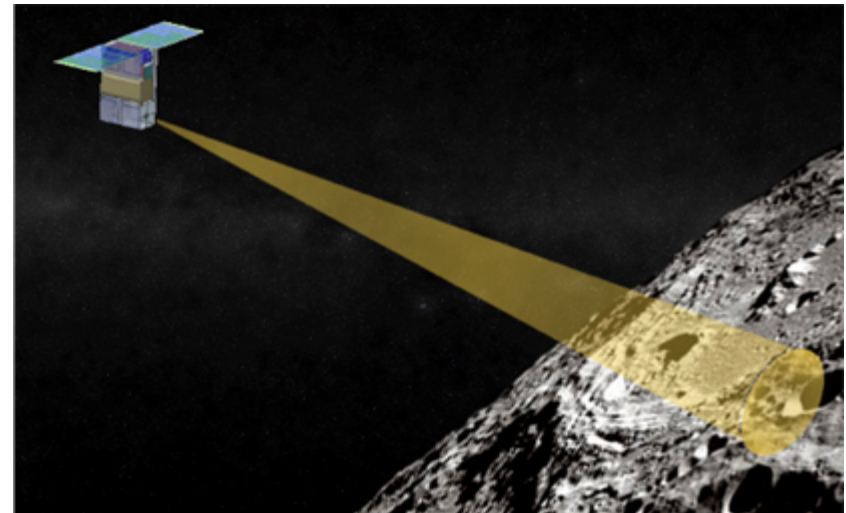
**Morehead State University**  
Morehead, KY



### **6U Lunar IceCube**

Prospect for water in ice, liquid, and vapor forms and other lunar volatiles from a low-perigee, highly inclined lunar orbit using a compact IR spectrometer

**Lockheed Martin**  
Denver, CO



### **Skyfire 6U CubeSat**

GEO Technology Demo

Will perform lunar flyby, collecting spectroscopy and thermography address both Moon and Mars SKGs for surface characterization, remote sensing, and site selection.

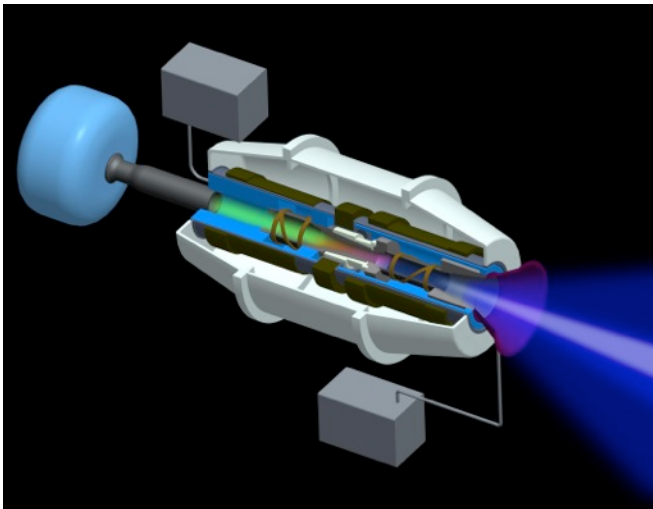


# NextSTEP BAA: Three Propulsion Awards



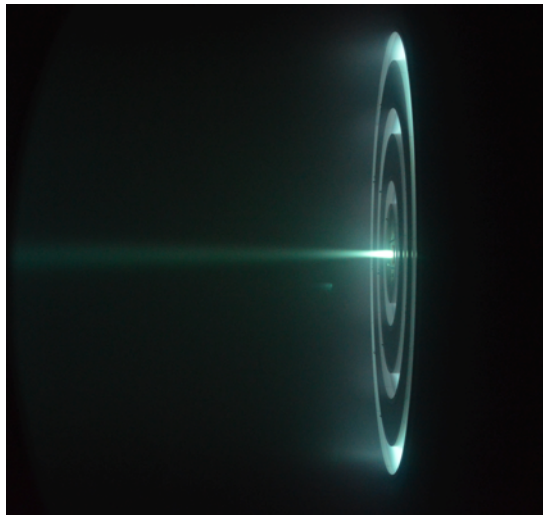
**Developing propulsion technology systems in the 50- to 300-kW range to meet the needs of a variety of deep-space mission concepts**

**Ad Astra Rocket Company**  
Webster, Texas



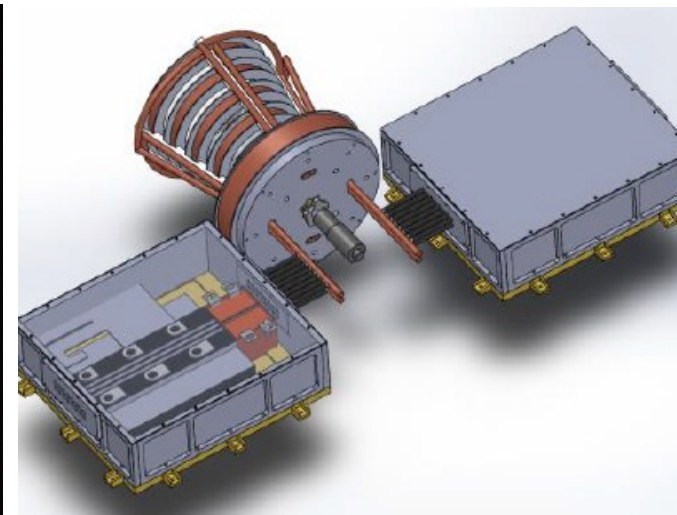
Thermal Steady State  
Testing of a VASIMR  
Rocket Core with  
Scalability to Human  
Spaceflight

**Aerojet Rocketdyne Inc.**  
Redmond, Washington



Operational  
Demonstration of a 100  
kW Electric Propulsion  
System with 250 kW  
Nested Hall Thruster

**MSNW LLC,**  
Redmond, Washington



Flexible High Power Electric  
Propulsion for Exploration  
Class Missions



# NextSTEP BAA: Seven Habitation Awards (1 of 3)



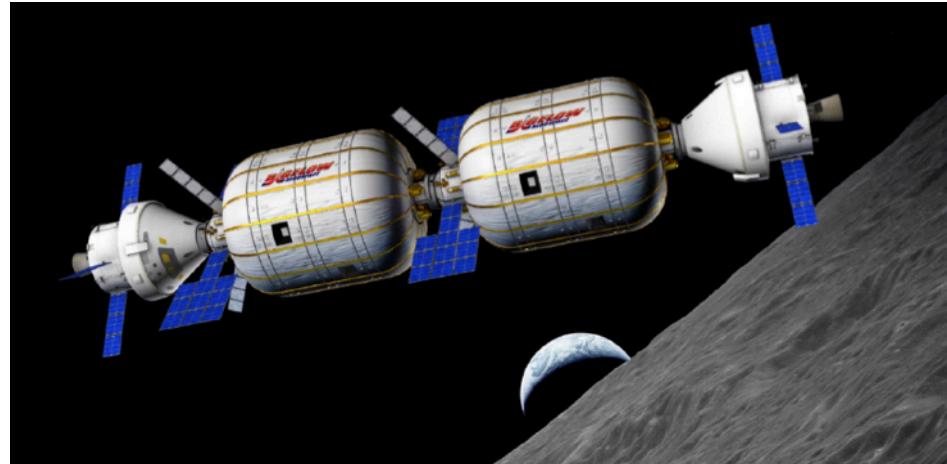
**NASA awarded seven habitation projects. Four will address habitat concept development, and three will address Environmental Control and Life Support Systems (ECLSS)**

## **Lockheed Martin Denver, CO**



Habitat to augment Orion's capabilities. Design will draw strongly on LM and partner Thales Alenia's heritage designs in habitation and propulsion.

## **Bigelow Aerospace LLC Las Vegas, NV**



The B330 for deep-space habitation will support operations/missions in LEO, DRO, and beyond cis-lunar space

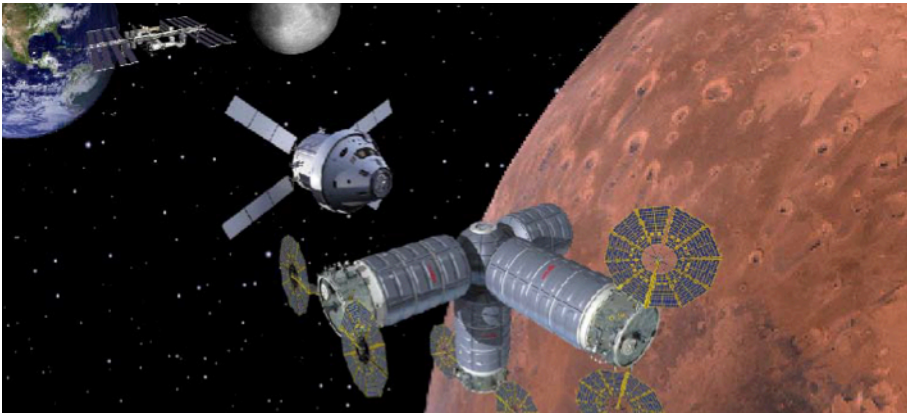


# NextSTEP BAA Habitation Awards (2 of 3)



**NASA awarded seven habitation projects. Four will address habitat concept development, and three will address Environmental Control and Life Support Systems (ECLSS)**

## **Orbital ATK** Dulles, VA



Habitat that employs a modular, building block approach that leverages the Cygnus spacecraft to expand cis-lunar and long duration deep space transit habitation capabilities and technologies

## **Boeing** Houston, TX



Developing a simple, low cost habitat that is affordable early on, allowing various technologies to be tested over time, and that is capable of evolving into a long-duration crew support system for cis-lunar and Mars exploration

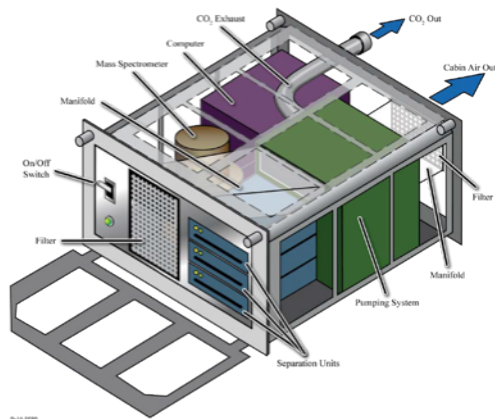


# NextSTEP BAA Habitation Awards (3 of 3)



**NASA awarded seven habitation projects. Four will address habitat concept development, and three will address Environmental Control and Life Support Systems (ECLSS)**

## Dynetics, Inc Huntsville, AL

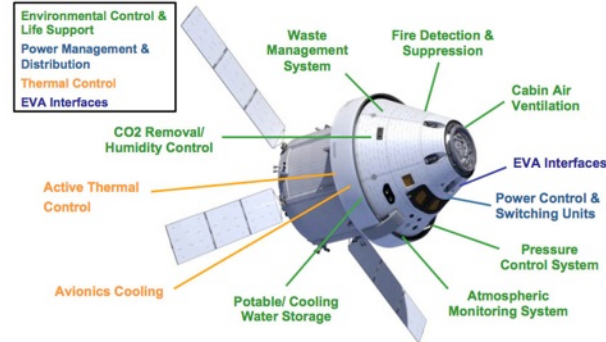


Miniature atmospheric scrubbing system for long-duration exploration and habitation applications. Separates CO<sub>2</sub> and other undesirable gases from spacecraft cabin air

## Hamilton Sundstrand Space Systems International Windsor Locks, CT

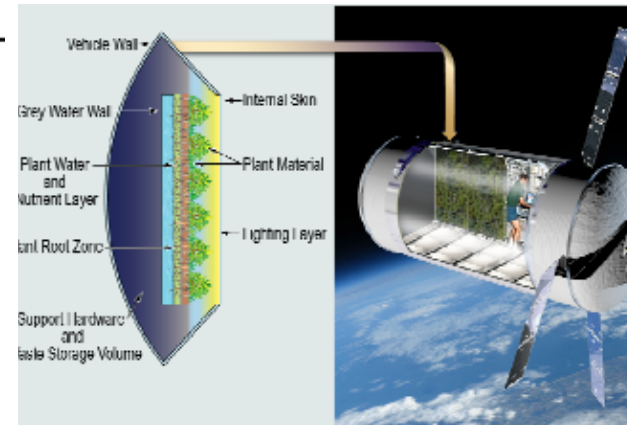
### Orion- Crew Exploration Vehicle

#### Hamilton Sundstrand Subsystems:



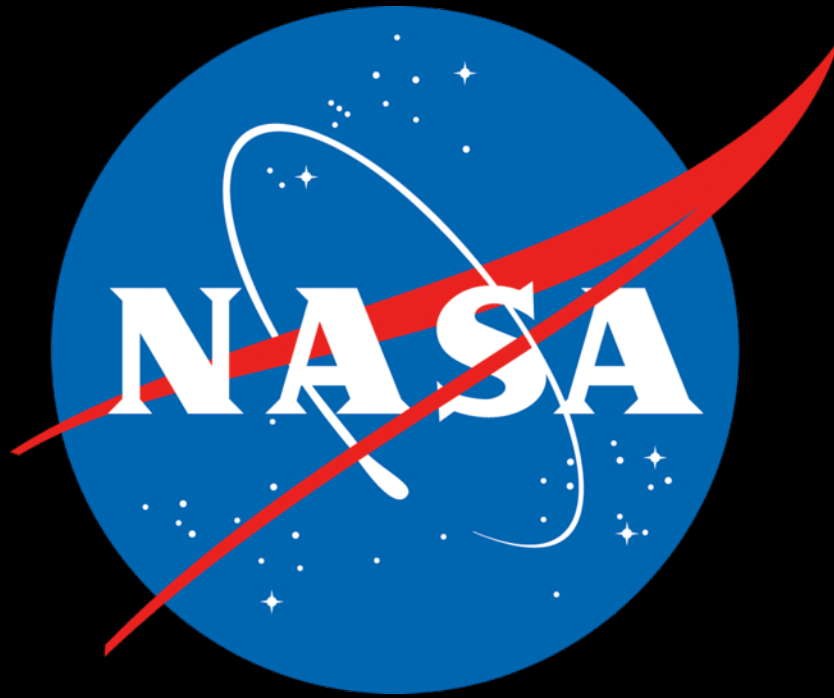
Larger, more modular ECLSS subsystems, requiring less integration and maximize component commonality

## Orbitec Madison, WI



Hybrid Life Support Systems integrating established Physical/Chemical life support with bioproduction systems





@NASAexplores